

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims:

1)₂ (currently amended) A In a method of changing ~~the~~ a configuration (C1) of an automatic machine (1), the improvements comprising:

~~a display device (5) and a selection device (6); a user selecting a desired end configuration (C2) by means of the~~ a selection device (6); and ~~the method being characterized by~~

displaying~~[[,]] by means of~~ on a display device (5)~~[[,]]~~ an orderly list (14) of the operations to be performed on the automatic machine (1) to convert the automatic machine (1) from ~~a current start~~ the configuration (C1) to ~~said desired~~ the end configuration (C2).

2)₂ (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1₂, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ said operations has to be performed according to a given sequence; the operation in said list (14) ~~is~~ are listed ~~arranged according to the~~ said sequence ~~in which said operations are performed.~~

3)₂ (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1₂, ~~characterized by~~ and comprising the further step of displaying, together with at least one said operation, the ~~state~~ value (16) of at least one respective operating ~~value~~ parameter (VF) in the ~~start~~ first configuration (C1), and the ~~state~~ value (17) of the same operating ~~value~~ parameter (VF) in the ~~end~~ second configuration (C2).

4)₂ (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said operating ~~value~~ parameter (VF) is a numeric ~~value~~ parameter ~~indicating the setting of an~~ operating member of the automatic machine (1).

5)₂ (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said operating ~~value~~ parameter (VF) is an identification code of a part of automatic machine (1).

6)₂ (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein, for each configuration (C), the respective states of all said operating ~~values~~ parameters (VF) are memorized in a database (DBC); each said operating ~~value~~ parameter (VF) being associated with a respective said operation to change the operating ~~value~~ parameter (VF); and said list (14) displaying all the operating ~~values~~ parameters (VF) whose respective states differ in the current said ~~start~~ first configuration (C1) and the desired said ~~end~~ second configuration (C2).

7)₂ (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 17, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein, in association with at least one said operation, a description (20) is displayed of the operations to be performed to carry out said operation.

8)₂ (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said description (20) comprises an orderly sequence of elementary operations to be performed to carry out the relative operation.

9)₂ (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a respective text description (21) is displayed for at least one said elementary operation.

10)₂ (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a respective photographic image is displayed for at least one said elementary operation.

11)₂ (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a respective video film is displayed for each said elementary operation.

12)₂ (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said video film is complete with sound.

13)₂ (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 12, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein, when said operations shown in said list (14) have all been performed, the new ~~control system~~ operating parameters of the control unit (3) relative to the desired ~~end~~ second configuration (C2) are transferred to the control unit (3) ~~automatic machine (1)~~.

14)₂ (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein, to transfer the new ~~control system~~ operating parameters, an operator must first have confirmed performance of each operation in said list (14).

15. (canceled)

16. (new) An automatic machine (1) for producing various types of articles (2); the automatic machine (1) comprising:

- a number of operating devices;
- control unit (3) for controlling the operating devices and for changing the configuration of the automatic machine (1) from a first configuration (C1) for producing a first type of articles (2) to a second configuration (C2) for producing a second type of articles (2);
- selection means (6) whereby a user selects the desired second configuration (C2); and
- display means (5) for displaying an orderly list (14) of the operations to be performed on the automatic machine (1) to convert the automatic machine (1) from the current first configuration (C1) to the desired second configuration (C2).

17. (new) A method of producing various types of articles (2) using a same automatic machine (1), which comprises a number of operating devices controlled by a control unit (3); the method comprising the following steps:

- running the automatic machine (1) set in a first configuration (C1) for producing a first type of articles (2);

- setting the automatic machine (1) from the first configuration (C1) to a second configuration (C2); and

- running the automatic machine (1) set in the second configuration (C2) for producing a second type of articles (2);

- wherein the step of setting the automatic machine (1) from the first configuration (C1) to the second configuration (C2) comprises the further step of:

selecting the desired second configuration (C2) by means of a selection device (6);
and

displaying, by means of a display device (5), an orderly list (14) of the operations to be performed on the automatic machine (1) to convert the automatic machine (1) from the current first configuration (C1) to said desired second configuration (C2).

18. (new) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the configurations of the automatic machine include calibration or change of mechanical ports.

19. (new) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the automatic machine is a packing machine.

20. (new) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the automatic machine is a packing machine.

21. (new) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the packing machine is for providing packets of cigarettes.